

Idaho Transportation Board

129,000 Pound Truck Route Subcommittee

August 25, 2014

Idaho Transportation Board (ITB) 129,000 Pound Truck Route Subcommittee Chairman Jim Kempton called the meeting to order at 11:05 AM on Monday, August 25 in Room 212 at the Idaho Transportation Department, Boise, Idaho. ITB Vice Chairman Jim Coleman and Member Dwight Horsch participated via teleconference. Member Jan Vassar participated via video conference from District 2. ITB Chairman Jerry Whitehead and Member Julie DeLorenzo were also present.

Subcommittee staff members and advisors in attendance included Deputy Attorney General Larry Allen, Chief Engineer (CE) Dave Jones, Highway Safety Manager Brent Jennings, Freight Coordinator Mark Bathrick, Public Involvement Coordinator Adam Rush, Vehicle Size and Weight Specialist Reggie Phipps, District 3 Operations Manager Jason Brinkman, Executive Assistant to the Board Sue Higgins, and Randy Shroll from the Department of Commerce. District 2 Engineer Dave Kuisti and District 2 Engineering Manager Doral Hoff participated via video conference. Laura Lantz, Association of Highway Districts, was also present.

June 2014 Meeting Minutes. The minutes of the June 18, 2014 Subcommittee meeting were approved without objection.

Case #201405: US-95, Milepost (MP) 240.27 to 312.0. CE Jones said the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) confirmed that the route meets all of the length and off-tracking requirements. The bridge analyses determined that the bridges on this route will safely support vehicle combinations of 129,000 pounds, assuming the axle configuration conforms to the legal requirements. District 2 reported that the road is in good condition from an operation stand point. Based on the analysis, CE Jones recommends approving the US-95 route request from MP 240.27 to 312.

Member Shroll made a motion to approve the Chief Engineer's recommendation on US-95, 240.27 to 312. Member Coleman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Member Coleman noted the request also included a local road, Spalding Mill Road. Member Vassar stated that the appropriate local jurisdictions have been contacted.

Chairman Kempton referenced the crash data. He asked that, where possible, future reports break out the crash data by passenger vehicles and commercial vehicles; specifically trucks.

Case #201406: US-12, MP 3 to 1.49. CE Jones said DMV confirmed that the route meets all of the length and off-tracking requirements. The bridge analysis determined that the bridge on the route will safely support weights of 129,000 pounds, assuming the axle configuration conforms to the legal requirements. District 2 reported that the road is in good condition from an operation stand point. Based on the analysis, CE Jones recommends approving the US-12 route request from MP 3 to 1.49.

Member Coleman made a motion to approve the Chief Engineer's recommendation on US-12, MP 3 to 1.49. Member Horsch seconded the motion.

In response to Chairman Kempton's question, Member Vassar said the cities and county are aware of the request to allow 129,000 pound vehicles on local routes. The City of Lewiston submitted comments with concerns related to off-tracking from US-12 onto East Main and with the culvert at Lindsay Creek. ITB Chairman Whitehead said he visited with the Lewiston City Engineer at the public hearing. He believes the City's concerns were adequately addressed.

The motion passed unopposed.

Case #201401: SH-55, MP 10.61 to 16.76. CE Jones reported that DMV confirmed that the route meets all of the length and off-tracking requirements. The bridge analysis determined that the three bridges on the route will safely support weights of 129,000 pounds, assuming the axle configuration conforms to the legal requirements. District 3 does not have any concerns with this request and recommends proceeding. Based on the analysis, CE Jones recommends approving the SH-55 route request from MP 10.61 to 16.76.

Member DeLorenzo made a motion to approve the Chief Engineer's recommendation on SH-55, MP 10.61 to 16.76. Member Vassar seconded the motion.

Member DeLorenzo explained her support for this request. The route has a high traffic volume. If commercial vehicles can haul up to 129,000 pounds, that will reduce the number of trucks on the route and reduce the stress on the road.

CE Jones added that the City of Nampa and the highway district acknowledged that the local road will need to be approved for weights up to 129,000 pounds to enable the heavier trucks to access the Amalgamated Sugar factory. Ms. Lantz said she talked to the local officials and they indicated they do not anticipate any problems with that approval.

Member Kempton noted that several portions of the pavement on SH-55 MP 10.61 – 16.76 are in poor condition; although he acknowledged that the 129,000 pound vehicle combinations would lessen the foot print on the roadway and result in fewer trucks on the highway. District 3 staff responded by stating that because of the high traffic volume, there is a need to expand the highway to four lanes. No priorities have been assigned for the work. Chairman Kempton suggested District 3 staff and ITD staff keep in mind the need for priority work on "poor" roadway segments designated as 129K routes; not only for this particular segment, but when reviewing other commercial arterials. Designated commercial corridors, in particular, are important considerations.

Member Horsch noted that Member DeLorenzo will be the fourth voting member on this motion. He will not be voting.

The motion passed unopposed.

CE Jones said he will have these three route requests ready for the full Board's consideration at the September meeting.

Process. Chairman Kempton said some changes have been made to the process to designate routes. The main revision is the inclusion of the process when requests for 129,000 pound routes are approved or rejected. That involves preparing, distributing, and posting the Letter of Determination. Clarifying language on the Subcommittee's recommendations to the full Board was also added.

Member Shroll made a motion to submit the Subcommittee recommendation to approve the three route requests considered today (US-95, MP 240.27 to 312; US-12, MP 3 to 1.49; and SH-55, MP 10.61 to 16.76) to the Idaho Transportation Board. Member Vassar seconded the motion and it passed unopposed.

New Business. CE Jones said the Letter of Determination for the three District 4 route requests has been posted on the website. He does not believe the 14-day time period for individuals to take action (appeal the decision) has expired yet.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 AM.

signed

Respectfully submitted by:

SUE S. HIGGINS

Executive Assistant & Secretary

Idaho Transportation Board